Propagation of schemes by PIB

*157. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding Public Information Campaign by Press Information Bureau (PIB) and other media units in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh having sizeable tribal population; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to provide sufficient officers, staff and other logistics to the PIB media units in the above States to propagate various schemes through audio-visual medium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Press Information Bureau (PIB), in collaboration with other Media Units of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, is organizing Bharat Nirman Public Information Campaigns to disseminate information to the targeted beneficiaries focussing on the flagship programmes of the Central Government. It seeks to empower ordinary citizens particularly from the rural and tribal areas, with knowledge of the flagship programmes so that they can avail the advantage of these programmes to improve the quality of their lives.

The Public Information Campaigns (PIC) are being organized from April, 2006. 23 PICs have been organized in Maharashtra, 08 in Gujarat and 15 in Madhya Pradesh so far. The venue wise details were PICs have been organized in each State, are as follows:—

Maharashtra	Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh
1	2	3
Aurangabad	Himmatnagar (Sabarkantha)	Thandla (Jhabua)
Osmanabad	Panchmahal (Godhra)	Chhalpi, District-Khandwa
Rahuri (Ahmednagar)	Dahod	Multai Betul
Vasmat Distt. (Hingoli)	Palanpur (Banaskantha)	Hariday Nagar (Mandla)
Bhandara	Pavi Jetpur District (Vadodara)	Dhar
Nadurbar	Songarh Vyara (Tapi)	Karera (Shivpuri)
Dhule	Dakor	Chhindwara
Buldhana (Vidrabha)	Khambat, Petlad (Anand District)	Dewas
Washim (Vidarbha)		Guna District
Chandrapur (Vidrabha)		Badwani District

1	2	3
Dahanu (Thane District)		Rajgarh District
Yavatmal (Vidarbha)		Hoshangabad District
Dharni District (Amravati)		Mhow
Khandesh (Jalgaon)		Barman
Karmala District (Sholapur)		Ratlam
Malegaon (Nashik District)		
Gondia (Vidarbha Region)		
Beed		
Vita (Sangli District)		
Dapoli (Ratnagiri District)		
Murtajapur (Akola District)		
Kudal (Sindhudurg District)		
Gadchiroli		
TOTAL-23	TOTAL-8	TOTAL-15

(b) Press Information Bureau has been disseminating information to the people in the form of Press Releases/Press Notes/Backgrounders/Features/Articles as well as by holding Press Conferences, conducting Press Tours and organizing Public Information Campaigns. This is being done through the use of Information Technology enabled service delivery mechanisms as well as print and electronic media which also include audio-visual medium. Provisioning of requisite officers/staffs and other logistics is an integral part of this endeavour.

Number portability

†*158. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is unnecessary delay in implementation of number portability;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed for implementation of number portability; if so, the details thereof?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government has issued Guidelines for award of Mobile Number Portability (MNP) service licence(s) on 01.08.2008. As per the said guidelines, MNP is to be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.